

AGENDA ITEM V

STATUS OF PROGRAMS REQUIRED TO SEEK SPECIALIZED ACCREDITATION

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its meeting in January 2006, the Board of Regents took actions concerning programs required to attain specialized accreditation but which had not yet achieved that status. Listed below are staff summaries addressing four such programs which were required to take immediate action.

STAFF SUMMARY

1. Nunez Community College - A.A.S. in Industrial Technology (CIP Code 15.0404)

Regents' Action: Conditional maintenance for the program until March 15, 2007. Before that date, the College shall either begin the National Association for Industrial Technology (NAIT) accreditation process, or request program termination with plans for a more relevant associate-program substitute.

Institutional Response: In April 2006, a NAIT consultant visited the Nunez campus, conducted a thorough review of the AAS program in Industrial Technology, and submitted a report to the institution. The consultant's report recommended that Nunez delay pursuit of accreditation of its IT program until other NAIT-eligible programs at the College are scheduled for reaccreditation in 2007. In the interim, required documentation can be gathered and used in continued program development. The delay will save the College an initial accreditation fee of \$4000 and will place all NAIT accredited programs on the same re-accreditation cycle.

2. Nicholls State University - A.S. in Petroleum Services; A.S. in Petroleum Services Safety Technology; B.S. in Petroleum Services (all CIP Code 15.0903)

Regents' Action: Conditional maintenance of programs until May 2006, pending results of a NAIT consultant's assessment of program accreditation eligibility.

Institutional Response: In May 2006, a NAIT consultant concluded that all three programs in Petroleum Services at Nicholls would be appropriate for NAIT accreditation with minor modifications. A realistic schedule for achieving accreditation includes:

- a. Application for candidacy for accreditation by NAIT, Fall 2006
- b. Attendance by faculty representatives at NAIT workshop, November 2006
- c. Completion and submittal of application to NAIT, Spring 2007
- d. Site visit by NAIT review team, mid-year 2007; drafting of team report
- e. Final decision by NAIT Board of Accreditation, Fall 2007

STAFF ANALYSIS

As all four programs have been determined to be eligible for NAIT accreditation, the institutions should proceed to seek accreditation according to the schedules outlined above.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the following four programs successfully seek and attain accreditation from the National Association for Industrial Technology according to the schedule listed in the staff summary:

- 1. Nunez Community College- A.A.S. in Industrial Technology (CIP Code 15.0404)*
- 2.-4. Nicholls State University-A.S. in Petroleum Services; A.S. in Petroleum Services Safety Technology; B.S. in Petroleum Services (CIP Code 15.0903)*